

Abstract

A multi-cell Li-ion or Li-ion polymer battery, comprised of a plurality of generally planar cell sections, each having at least one flat, metallic current collector tab extending therefrom. A plurality of the current collector tabs are aligned in spaced-apart relationship and extend from one side of the cell body. Each of the tabs has a free end and an intermediate portion. A tab weldment joins the free ends of the tabs but leaves the intermediate portions of the tabs unattached to each other. The tabs are welded together when the tabs are stacked together at a location offset from the cell body, such that the tabs are folded into a generally U-shaped configuration with the unattached intermediate portions forming a smooth layered, generally U-shaped structure when the tab weldment is disposed adjacent the one side of the cell body.